

HOUSE RESOLUTION 435

By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mrs. Earline Green Ross of Marion County on the occasion of the dedication of the Jasper Middle School library in her honor.

WHEREAS, the citizens of our State and nation owe a profound debt of gratitude to those dedicated teachers who have worked hard to instill the necessary knowledge for each of us to make our way in life and who have missed no opportunity to mold young minds to embrace a love of learning; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding public school teacher and administrator, now retired, is Mrs. Earline Green Ross of Jasper in Marion County, who has been an educator for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2004, the Jasper Middle School will honor Mrs. Ross through the dedication of its library in her honor; and

WHEREAS, a native of Sumpter County, Alabama, Earline Green and her three siblings were born to tenant farmer parents; and

WHEREAS, though material possessions were few and work was hard during the long, hot days in southwest Alabama, the Green children possessed an abundance of love, joy, forgiveness, mercy, kindness and justice; Earline and her siblings were taught from birth to respect others, to do right and to honor God; and

WHEREAS, Earline attended the local public schools, acting in a play, Patty Makes Things Hum, in the sixth grade, and participating in Beta Club, Bible Club, proms, class plays, class day and graduation in high school; she was Co-Valedictorian of her high school class; and

WHEREAS, following graduation, Earline earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Livingston State Teachers College, now West Alabama University; later she

earned a Master's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and an additional 45 hours beyond the Master's degree at Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, Earline Green married D.W. Ross of Meridian, Mississippi, who was employed by DuPont of Chattanooga; they have lived in Jasper, Tennessee since 1953; and

WHEREAS, Earline and D.W. Ross have a son, David Preston, born in 1957; David, who teaches in a School of Excellence, enjoys his parents' full support whether he is teaching, working on an advanced degree, a new defensive strategy in football, fishing in Weiss Lake or just enjoying life around his log cabin; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross's teaching experience includes five years in Alabama and 35 years in Marion County; she has taught high school English, served as an elementary school principal, Chapter I Coordinator, and, during the last eleven years, principal of Jasper Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Earline and D.W. Ross are both active in First Baptist Church and since retirement, have enjoyed travelling, antiquing, working in the yard, supporting David's football teams and reading and rocking on their back porch; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in our deliberations to especially honor this exemplary teacher and administrator; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate Mrs. Earline Green Ross on the occasion of the dedication of the Jasper Middle School library in her honor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we honor and commend Mrs. Earline Green Ross for her 40-year career of outstanding and committed teaching and school administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deep gratitude for the great service that she has rendered to the children of Marion County and the State of Tennessee and offer her our best wishes for much happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.